



COUNTY OF AMHERST

Public Information Officer

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Public Safety Director Announces Departure

The Amherst County Director of Public Safety, Gary Roakes announced his departure from his position today in a letter written to the County Administrator. He expressed that this was a very tough decision for him. Roakes has accepted a new position with SSC Consulting out of Elkton MD, which is a public safety consulting firm. He will retain his residence in Amherst County.

Gary Roakes has devoted thirty-four years of service to Amherst County. Twenty-one years as a volunteer with Monelison Rescue Squad and the past thirteen years as Director of Public Safety. In his letter, Roakes states, "I am forever grateful and honored to have served in this position for the past thirteen years and look forward to watching this County and Department continue to strive for new levels of excellence in service."

This is bittersweet information for the County because of the many wonderful contributions that Mr. Roakes has made to the County but the entire staff is proud that his success is allowing his talents and service to have an even wider reach. "Amherst will lose one of the most dedicated public servants that I've had the pleasure to work with", says Board of Supervisors Chair, Claudia Tucker. Another board member Kenneth Campbell says, "I can't think of anyone that has been more dedicated to his job consistently over the years."

The current Deputy Director of Public Safety, Sam Bryant, will be the interim Director of Public Safety while the County is in the process of finding a new Director. Mr. Roakes' last day will be April 20, 2018.

Additional information may be obtained from Layney Sandifer at lesandifer@countyofamherst.com or (434)946-9400.